

Selectmen's Board Meeting Minutes
November 10, 2011

Call to Order: 6:30 PM

Present: David Abbott, Jonathan Villeneuve, David Reingardt

Approve consent Calendar:

A. Approved Selectmen Minutes of October 27, 2011

B. Warrant # 42

1) Selectmen discussed the proper accounting for Cash for Conifers, an idea the Chris Cooper had to landscape the side of the Alna Fire Station. Selectmen decided to put a pre-imburement slip in the warrant and have Chris attach the actual expenditures later.

2) Selectmen briefly discussed installing a programmable thermostat in the Town Office to save on the cost of heating. Clerk Warner explained that she and Deputy Clerk Judy Greenleaf turned the heat down every time they left the office for the day and just turned it up again the next time they came in. Selectmen decided that the payback for a programmable thermostat, ranging in cost from \$40 to \$120 would have a payback of about 2 years, but probably longer due the the diligence of the clerks and decided to wait on installing one.

3) Selectmen discussed the cost of pickup truck rental again and decided to think about a clause for the bid policy concerning public rental of private equipment. All Selectmen agreed that it would not be an issue if the rental was a short term or emergency situation, but that long term rental would need to be closer to market rate. Selectman Reingardt pointed out that the appearance of conflict of interest was still an issue and up to the Selectmen to ultimately make the decision about equipment rental or approving jobs in the first place so they would be the ones to answer for the decision as the voting body. Selectman Abbott said that input from the Road Commissioner or other town official would be important in the decision making process and that an idea of the scope of the job would be important. Selectman Villeneuve pointed out that the issue extends beyond just the truck rental and sometimes it was an issue of convenience versus price and also questioned the liability of public rental of privately owned equipment. He also suggested that purchase orders might be the only way to go, because they had been working on an honesty basis when they had suspended the bidding policy for jobs prior. Townsperson and past Selectman Chris Cooper suggested that a meeting the first part of the month with the Road Commissioner outlining possible expenditures and expectations for the month might help alay frustrations and also suggested preapproval by Selectmen or prohibiting the rental or lease of privately owned equipment to the Town. Townsperson Lynne Flaccus suggested a work plan with accountability outlined coming before Selectmen before jobs were done. Selectmen decided to continue the discussion at the next meeting and Selectmen would each write a few sentences on what they thought a good equipment rental clause would be to add to the policy.

4) Selectman Villeneuve brought up the broken limb hung up in the tree outside of the Town Office and said he would come by in the next week or two and pull it down.

5) Selectmen Villeneuve had heard from Time Warner and also contacted the CONNECTME grant program to see what the next steps would be in applying for a grant during the next round, he was waiting on an answer back from CONNECTME

6) Selectmen decided to meet next week on 11/17 because of Thanksgiving following the week after.
Adjourn: 8pm

Respectfully Submitted

Amy Warner Town Clerk

David Abbott

Jonathan Villeneuve

David Reingardt